



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/535,673	05/12/2006	Pierre Fagard	4590-402	7671
33308	7590	07/24/2007	EXAMINER	
LOWE HAUPTMAN & BERNER, LLP 1700 DIAGONAL ROAD, SUITE 300 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			CHOW, YUK	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		2629		
		MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE
		07/24/2007		PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>
	10/535,673	FAGARD, PIERRE
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>
	Yuk C. Chow	2629

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.  
 2a) This action is FINAL.                    2b) This action is non-final.  
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.  
 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
 6) Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.  
 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:  
     1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
     2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.  
     3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date: ____.
3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>05/19/2005</u> .	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.

**DETAILED ACTION*****Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Troxell et al (PGPUB US 2004/0080486 A1).

As to claim 1, Troxell discloses a display device, the surface of the device being rendered touch-sensitive, the device comprising: a first dedicated part (Fig. 6) having two insulating plates (Fig. 4(410A,410B)), a layer of material (indium-tin-oxide [0028]) exhibiting electro-optical properties suitable for rendering all or part of its surface visible under the effect of an electrical control signal (Fig. 1(102)), the layer being disposed between the two plates, at least one first electrode (Fig. 4(408A)) having the shape of a pictogram (Fig. 6(680)), the at least one first electrode being disposed on a face of one of the insulating plates (Fig. 4(410A)), a second electrode (Fig. 4(408B)) disposed on a face of the other insulating plate (Fig. 4(410B)) opposite at least one first electrode, wherein the second electrode is used as responsive element of the touch-sensitive surface of the device, and in that the surface area of the second electrode is greater than or equal to the surface area or the sum of the surface areas of the first electrode or electrodes opposite (surface area of second electrode on Fig. 1(106A), "a circle" is greater than first electrode on Fig. 1(106A) "a dot").

However, Troxell does not teach that the surface area of the second electrode is at least 9 mm<sup>2</sup>.

Troxell teaches a typical electrode may be approximate the size of fingertip, 1.3 cm<sup>2</sup>. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to design electrode size to be at lease 9 mm<sup>2</sup> for a touch sensitive application due to practical reason as suggested by Troxell in [0036].

As to claim 2, Troxell discloses a device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first electrode is fed electrically by a pad in that the second electrode is profiled opposite the pad (See Fig. 6, all electrode are electrically connected by pads).

As to claim 3, Troxell discloses a device as claimed in 1, wherein it comprises several second electrodes, and in that each second electrode is fed separately (see Fig. 6 all second electrodes are fed separately).

As to claim 4, Troxell discloses a device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the pattern of the second electrode covers substantially a circle of at least 9 mm in diameter (Fig. 1(106) also see [0036]).

As to claim 5; Troxell discloses a device as claimed in claim 1, wherein it comprises a second non-dedicated part (Fig. 5(502-512), see [0032]).

As to claim 6, Troxell discloses a device as claimed in claim 5, wherein the second non-dedicated part is arranged in the form of a matrix with row-wise and column-wise addressing (see Fig. 5 (502-512) forms 2x3 matrix).

As to claim 7, Troxell discloses a device as claimed in claim 2, wherein it comprises several second electrodes, and in that each second electrode is fed separately (see Fig. 6).

As to claim 8, Troxell discloses a device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the pattern of the second electrode covers substantially a circle of at least 9 mm in diameter (see [0036]).

As to claim 9, Troxell disclose a device as claimed in claim 3, wherein the pattern of the second electrode covers substantially a circle of at least 9 mm in diameter (see [0036]).

As to claim 10, Troxell discloses a device as claimed in claim 2, wherein it comprises a second non-dedicated part (Fig. 5(502-512), see [0032]).

As to claim 11, Troxell discloses a device as claimed in claim 3, wherein it comprises a second non-dedicated part (Fig. 5(502-512), see [0032]).

As to claim 12, Troxell discloses a device as claimed in claim 4, wherein it comprises a second non-dedicated part (Fig. 5(502-512), see [0032]).

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yuk C. Chow whose telephone number is 571 270-1544. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-6 M-TH E.T..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Amare Mengistu can be reached on 571 272-7674. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

YC  
07/20/2007

  
AMARE MENGISTU  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER